

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5973

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AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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DEPT FOR CCINC

MADRID FOR DEA SAIC TOFT AND NARCOTICS COORDINATOR LEE

PARIS FOR DEA AND CUSTOMS SA SEQUEIRA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PO

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE NARCOTICS PROGRAM

REF: MADRID 0485 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: REFTEL SUMMARIZED NEW GOP ANTI-DRUG PROGRAM AND RECOMMENDED DEA ASSISTANCE. GOP ANTI-DRUG ORGANIZATION IS DESCRIBED IN SOMEWHAT GREATER DETAIL HEREIN. EMBASSY STRONGLY SUPPORTS PROPOSALS FOR DEA TRAINING, AND RECOMMENDS DEA PROGRAMS BE COORDINATED WITH PROPOSED U.S. CUSTOMS CCINC TRAINING IN NARCOTICS INTERDICTION FOR PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY.

1. TO DATE, GOP ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS HAVE BEEN SMALL, UNCOORDINATED, AND LARGELY INEFFECTIVE. MEDICAL PREVENTION AND TREATMENT HAVE RECEIVED SCANT ATTENTION; ANTI-DRUG OPERATIONS OF JUDICIARY POLICE (PJ) -- TECHINCALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ENTIRE COUNTRY -- HAVE BEEN LARGELY CONFINED TO LISBON, DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERSONNEL. ONLY TOP PJ AGENTS HAVE HAD ANY NARCOTICS TRAINING.

2. WITH COUNTRY RAPIDLY BECOMING MORE AWARE OF GROWING DRUG PROBLEM, GOP ENACTED DECREE, DATED DECEMBER 31, 1975, ESTABLISHING NEW ORGANIZATION FOR NARCOTICS CONTROL AND TREATMENT. FACT THAT ORGANIZATIONS WILL REPORT DIRECTLY TO PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE INDICATES HIGH PRIORITY OF NARCOTICS PROGRAM. UNFORTUNATELY, PROGRAM HAS ALREADY SUFFERED DAMAGING SETBACK. THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM, MANUEL SA MACHADO, WHO WAS NOT ONLY THE PRIME MINISTER'S TOP ASSISTANT BUT HIGHLY MOTIVATED ON DRUG CONTROL, DIED IN LATE JANUARY. HIS REPLACEMENT MAY NOT BE AS INFLUENTIAL OR AS HIGHLY MOTIVATED.

3. NAVY COMMANDER ANTONIO GOMES DA SILVA WAS NAMED TO BE CO-ORDINATOR FOR DRUG PROBLEMS UNDER SA MACHADO. HE APPEARS HIGHLY MOTIVATED AND SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH -- THE RESULT OF EIGHT MONTHS' GUNNERY TRAINING IN U.S. TWO SEPARATE AND DISTINCT ENTITIES, WHICH WILL REPORT TO HIM, ARE TO BE KEPT STRICTLY APART SO THAT NEGATIVE IMAGE OF POLICE WILL NOT AFFECT PREVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAM. THEY ARE:

A. CENTER FOR YOUTH STUDIES (CENTRO DE ESTUDOS DE JUVENTUDE) -- AIMED AT THE DRUG CONSUMER, AND INVOLVING PREVENTION, TREATMENT, RECOVERY, AND REINTEGRATION INTO SOCIETY. HEADED BY DR. DIAS CORDEIRO, OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE, LISBON U.

B. CENTER FOR JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION (CENTRO DE INVESTIGACAO JUDICIARIA) -- AIMED MAINLY AT DRUG TRAFFICKER, THROUGH INTELLIGENCE, INVESTIGATION, AND ENFORCEMENT. HEADED BY INSPECTOR ANTONIO CLARO, WHO UNTIL NOW HAS DIRECTED THE NARCOTICS SECTION OF THE PJ. DETAILED PLANS FOR ORGANIZATIONS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED TO GOP BY BEGINNING OF MARCH.

4. EMBASSY STRONGLY SUPPORTS TRAINING REQUEST MADE IN REFTEL. WE WISH TO REEMPHASIZE NEED TO BEGIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT PORTUGUESE CAN MAINTAIN PLANNED SCHEDULE. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED ALSO FROM U.S. CUSTOMS OFFICIAL IN PARIS, DENNIS SEQUEIRA, THAT PORTUGUESE CUSTOMS SERVICE IS STRONGLY INTERESTED IN CCINC TRAINING COURSE IN NARCOTICS INTERDICTION. COURSE COULD POSSIBLY BE GIVEN IN LATE MARCH-EARLY APRIL BY U.S. CUSTOMS TRAINING TEAM FOLLOWING ITS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED VISIT TO LUXEMBOURG (LUXEMBOURG 0083 NOTAL). PORTUGUESE DRUG OFFICIALS ARE VERY INTERESTED IN HAVING TEAM CONDUCT COURSE IN PORTUGAL. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

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